



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Meeting Minutes

Town Council

Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Dean Antipas, Kathryn M. Brown-Tracy, Bruce S. Flax, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita M. Schmidt, and Paulann H. Sheets

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Mayor Harry Watson.

Members Present: Mayor Watson, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Brown-Tracy, Councilor Flax, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Schmidt and Councilor Sheets

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Assistant to the Town Manager Lee Vincent, and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Salute to the Flag was led by Sally Whitney.

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

2009-0131 Proclamation Recognizing Robert Leo Shaffer

Read

The proclamation was read by Mayor Watson.

National Honor Society Induction

Councilor Kolnaski congratulated the new members recently inducted into the National Honor Society at Fitch Senior High School.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2009-0116 TVCCA Lease Agreement for 40 Central Avenue

Heard at Public Hearing

Mayor Watson called a recess for the Public Hearing at 7:34 p.m.

The Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to a resolution passed by the Town Council was read by Office Assistant Lori Watrous.

Mayor Watson noted that TVCCA will take over this Day Care Facility on Central Avenue, and will lease the property from the Town.

Mark Oefinger handed out a GIS map of the property, and noted that a copy of the old lease and the proposed new lease, which clarifies who is responsible for maintenance, had previously been distributed to the Council. The building was specifically built as a day care building so there will not be major changes to the building or the site. The Town Manager then read the affirmative response to the CGS 8-24 referral made to the Planning Commission in favor of the TVCCA lease of 40 Central Avenue.

There being no further comments, Mayor Watson closed the Public Hearing at 7:39 p.m.

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Sally Whitney, 52 Division Street, a employee in the Town Clerk's office, spoke in support of

affirming the revaluation phase-in, stating that it would be an unnecessary burden and expense to suspend the phase-in.

Ralph Whitney, 52 Division Street, is in favor of continuing the third year of the phase-in without delaying it. The intent of the phase-in was to make the tax burden equitable and any postponement would delay this equalization.

Ben Courant, 18 Mardie Lane, remarked that the Mardie Lane project is an eyesore to the Town. It has units with no utilities, fights over the road entrance, expired permits, an unfinished road, and lawsuits. He stated that the Town Manager and Mike Murphy have knowledge of the situation and he would like action and answers for the citizens of Mardie Lane. Mr. Courant, in his role of West Pleasant Valley Fire District Treasurer, stated that the Fire District feels that the phase-in should be delayed.

Frank J. Socha, 36 Center Street, Noank, an employee at the Emergency Dispatch Center, spoke as Chairman of the Noank Fire District in support of affirming the phase-in. If there were a suspension, fire districts would have to reset mill rates. There would also be a delay in the receipt of taxes which would cause fire districts to have to obtain financing for two or three months.

Genevieve Cerf, 17 Crescent Street, is in favor of a suspension of the revaluation phase-in until 2011. She stated that there was an unprecedented increase in property values due to the real estate bubble. She believes that suspending the phase-in will keep property values closer to their actual worth in today's market.

Don Wood, 298 Meridian Street, urged the Council to suspend the phase-in. He believes that special interest programs and facilities such as sports fields, skating facilities, and even the Senior Center should not supported by the Town, but should be privately owned. Mr. Wood encouraged councilors to read Article 8, Section 4 of the State Constitution regarding education.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Councilor Sheets agrees with the arguments to suspend the phase-in.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Administrative Items

2009-0132 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Mohegan Sun - \$2,500.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Various Donations - \$83.50 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Matching Funds - \$66.27 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Vera Leavy - \$50.00 - Mystic Arts Cafe

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

b. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2008-0027 Tax Credits for Volunteer Firemen

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0129 Department of Education Youth and Family Services Funding

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0130 Department of Education Youth Services Enhancement Grant

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0117 Parks and Recreation Program/Service Pricing Contract

- 2009-0126 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Services Shared with Stonington
- 2009-0133 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Local Option to Suspend Revaluation Phase-In
- 2009-0135 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Establishment of Tax Rate for General Fund (FYE 10)
- 2009-0136 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Establishment of Tax Rate for Mumford Cove District Fund (FYE 10)
- 2009-0137 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Establishment of Tax Rate for Groton Sewer District Fund (FYE 10)
- 2009-0139 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Submarine Capital of the World Inc. Request for Donation
- 2009-0142 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Appointment of Ilona Oberman to Housing Authority
- 2009-0143 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Reappointment of Gregory Leonard to Parks and Recreation Commission
- 2009-0144 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Reappointment of Douglas Brandt to the Zoning Commission
- 2009-0145 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Reappointment of Susan Marquardt to the Zoning Commission
- 2009-0146 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Reappointment of Susan Sutherland to the Zoning Commission
- 2009-0147 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Police Union Working Agreement
- 2009-0148 This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.
Position Description for Office Assistant/Mail Courier
- This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

Passed The Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Schmidt, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

a. Town Councilors

Councilor Brown-Tracy attended the Annual Student Leaders' Breakfast.

Councilor Schmidt received an email in support of suspending the revaluation phase-in.

Councilor Sheets obtained informational materials for the National League of Cities Prescription Discount Program and forwarded them to the Town Manager's office. She received a call from the Department of Energy informing her that an appeals procedure is being set up to address Groton's eligibility for certain grant monies. If an appeal is granted there will be an extension of the application deadline. Councilor Sheets received a call objecting to the transfer of a Public Works employee to the Planning Department without letting others apply for the position. She attended the Green Jobs Expo.

Councilor Kolnaski attended the Children First Groton meeting, a veterans' luncheon at the Pawcatuck VFW, the Annual Student Leaders' Breakfast, and the Fitch Senior High School National Honor Society Induction Ceremony. Councilor Kolnaski, along with Councilors Brown-Tracy and O'Beirne, attended the Town Council/Board of Education/RTM Liaison Committee meeting.

Councilor Monteiro, Councilor Flax, Councilor O'Beirne, and Mayor Watson received emails on both sides of the revaluation phase-in question.

Councilor Flax attended the Cutler Middle School Band Concert.

Mayor Watson spoke at the Children First Groton meeting.

b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting

The RTM concluded its budget deliberations on May 20, 2009, and its next regular meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2009.

c. Clerk of the Council

Office Assistant Lori Watrous noted that renewals for dog licenses began on June 1, 2009 and reminder cards have been mailed to dog-owners.

d. Town Manager

The Town Manager noted that William Strader, a professor of early childhood education, will be the speaker at the Board of Education meeting on June 8, 2009. He stated that there is no need for a Group I meeting next week, there is an interview lined up for Group II, and the Committee of the Whole meeting will begin at 6:30 with an update on the Thames Street Rehabilitation Project. The Town Manager received an email from Marge Fondulas noting that Groton has been fortunate to have a number of young residents go to Tim Horton's Camp in Kentucky over the last four or five years. June 3, 2009 is Tim Horton's Camp Day and proceeds will be contributed to this camp program. The Town Manager mentioned that paving will begin on Gungywamp Road and suggested avoiding that area during daytime hours as there will be delays.

e. Town Attorney

No report.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Brown-Tracy

No meeting, no report.

b. Economic Development - Chairman Flax

No meeting, no report.

c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski

No meeting, no report.

d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets

Councilor Sheets read the minutes of the meeting held on May 26, 2009, which are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

e. Finance - Chairman Schmidt

Councilor Schmidt read the minutes of the meeting held on May 26, 2009, which are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman O'Beirne

Councilor O'Beirne read the minutes of the meeting held on May 26, 2009, which are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

g. Public Safety - Chairman Monteiro

No meeting, no report.

h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Antipas

Councilor Monteiro read the minutes of the meeting held on May 26, 2009, which are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Watson

The Committee of the Whole met on May 26, 2009 and discussed the items on tonight's agenda.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. NEW BUSINESS

2009-0129 Department of Education Youth and Family Services Funding

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FYE 2010 YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES FUNDING

WHEREAS, crisis intervention, prevention and support programs and short-term counseling services will benefit at-risk Groton youth and their families, and

WHEREAS, funding is available from the State of Connecticut Department of Education to supplant a portion of the salaries of Groton Youth and Family Services Counselors who provide intervention and prevention services for at-risk Groton youth, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, or his designee, is authorized to file an application with the State of Connecticut Department of Education (DOE) for FYE 10 youth services funding in an amount to be determined by the DOE and to amend contractual agreements for such funding to ensure continuation of short-term counseling, crisis intervention and prevention and support programs for Groton youth and families.

A motion was made by Councilor Schmidt, seconded by Councilor Sheets, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0130 Department of Education Youth Services Enhancement Grant

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FY 2010 YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING

WHEREAS, The State of Connecticut Department of Education offers Connecticut Youth Service Bureau Enhancement Grant Program Funding to enhance existing programs that provide direct services to at-risk youth in areas ranging from counseling to youth enrichment, outreach programs and positive youth development, and

WHEREAS, Groton Youth and Family Services has demonstrated its success in providing a youth development program, Groton SeaLegs, via Virtual Voyages, Inc., that will be further developed with FY 10 Enhancement Funding to serve additional at-risk Groton youth, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, or his designee, is authorized to apply for and contract with the State of Connecticut Department of Education (DOE) for FY 10 Youth Services Enhancement Grant Program Funding in an amount to be determined by the DOE.

A motion was made by Councilor Schmidt, seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0117 Parks and Recreation Program/Service Pricing Contract**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE FOR CONTRACT SERVICES ON PRICING OF TOWN PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, for several years the Groton Parks and Recreation Department has made increasing use of a special revenue fund to facilitate the wide availability of programs, and

WHEREAS, the department staff believes that a more precise and focused pricing policy and strategy would give the department a sounder fiscal basis with which they could maximize future course and program offerings, and

WHEREAS, the department reports that specialized consulting services are available that would help establish a more sophisticated pricing policy, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department has accumulated savings from a position vacancy in the current fiscal year, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes a contract for pricing consultative services at an estimated price of \$9,400, to be paid from funds already appropriated (FYE 2009 funds) to the Parks and Recreation Department.

A motion was made by Councilor Brown-Tracy, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor O'Beirne will oppose this resolution as he believes that it is unnecessary because Town staff could be doing this themselves.

Councilor Flax is in agreement with Councilor O'Beirne.

Councilor Sheets supports this resolution and believes that Town staff is in a better position to judge when they need assistance.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 6 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Brown-Tracy, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor Schmidt and Councilor Sheets
Opposed: 3 - Councilor Antipas, Councilor Flax and Councilor O'Beirne, Jr.

2009-0126 Services Shared with Stonington**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE ON SHARED SERVICES WITH STONINGTON**

WHEREAS, for several years the Groton Town Council and Representative Town Meeting have been faced with serious questions about what appears to be less than fair and proportionate contributions by the Town of Stonington to services that are widely shared by residents of both towns, and

WHEREAS, previous communications between the two towns have not led to meaningful changes in Stonington's contributions to those organizations and programs, and

WHEREAS, Groton is particularly concerned about securing adequate support from both towns to the Mystic and Noank Library, the Mystic River Ambulance Association and the Mystic River Pumpout Boat program, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the Town of Groton may appoint a Shared Services Task Force of not more than nine members, to include volunteers from the Groton Town Council and RTM, and other members as appropriate, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor should invite the Town of Stonington to also designate up to four of the nine members of the Task Force.

A motion was made by Councilor Antipas, seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor Kolnaski will oppose this resolution because the Town is working well with Stonington. The Mystic and Noank Library is not a Town department or Town organization, and she believes that there are better ways of addressing this issue since forming a task force may create a less-than-cooperative response.

Councilor Schmidt will oppose for the same reasons. Stonington is a municipality with its own Finance Department and there is very little we can do force them to do anything. She further stated that the ambulance service is licensed and obligated to service both Groton and Stonington.

Councilor Sheets supports the task force concept and feels it is a reasonable way to interface with a neighbor over issues that are a concern to taxpayers.

Councilor Brown-Tracy will oppose this resolution as the Council should talk with Stonington representatives.

Councilor Antipas sees this only as an attempt to meet with Stonington and gather information.

Councilor Monteiro is concerned that this is moving too fast and stated that there is a lot of time to speak with Stonington before the next budget session. She would like to meet with Stonington first to share the RTM's concerns.

Councilor Kolnaski stated that the Town should not be deciding who should pay what share. The Mystic and Noank Library has a board; they decide on their budget and it is their responsibility, not the Town's.

Mayor Watson will vote for this resolution out of respect for the RTM as they requested this task force and because the situation has existed for a long time.

Councilor Monteiro questioned the makeup of the proposed task force and whether a Council member would be part of it.

The motion failed by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 3 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Antipas and Councilor Sheets
Opposed: 6 - Councilor Brown-Tracy, Councilor Flax, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr. and Councilor Schmidt

2009-0133 Local Option to Suspend Revaluation Phase-In

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE THREE YEAR PHASE-IN OF THE 2006 NET GRAND LIST

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2007, in Legislative File No. 2007-0082, the Town Council resolved to implement a three-year phase-in of the 2006 Grand List revaluation assessment increases , and

WHEREAS, according to Resolution No, 2007-0082, the third and final year of that phase-in is to be embodied in the Town taxes for the Fiscal Year 2009-2010, and

WHEREAS, legislation recently enacted by the State of Connecticut would allow the Town of Groton to delay the third phase-in year until the next statutorily scheduled revaluation in 2011, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that although most real estate taxpayers would see a smaller increase in taxes from the previous year, other taxpayers would have to make up that difference,

and

WHEREAS, a further suspension would be inconsistent with the Town Council's original intent to enact a three-year phase-in and would be incommensurate with the costs and fiscal disruption that would affect the Town, its seven fire districts and its two subdivisions, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council affirms its executory resolution that authorized the current phase-in, so that the Finance Department may now proceed to issue FYE 2010 tax bills according to the department's normal processes.

A motion was made by Councilor Sheets, seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor O'Beirne questioned why this resolution is being voted on and the ramifications if it should fail.

Lee Vincent read the core of the Town Attorney's opinion as follows: "I agree with your conclusion, adoption of resolution 2009-0133 will have the same effect as not adopting it, i.e., the third year of the phase-in will proceed under the authority of the 2007 resolution which is executory, which is still in effect. The act that authorizes a pause in the phase-in Public Act 09-60 authorizes the Town to enact a pause but requires an affirmative vote by its legislative body to do so, thus unless the Council votes to suspend the phase-in, it continues anyway."

The Town Manager felt that after the last Committee of the Whole meeting the Council wanted to reaffirm going ahead with the phase-in. He agrees with the Town Attorney that this will reaffirm an action to proceed, ensuring that there is a complete record.

Councilor Sheets stated that she will oppose this resolution because she thinks that the phase-in should be suspended.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 7 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Brown-Tracy, Councilor Flax, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr. and Councilor Schmidt
Opposed: 2 - Councilor Antipas and Councilor Sheets

2009-0135

Establishment of Tax Rate for General Fund (FYE 10)

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TAX RATE FOR GENERAL FUND TAXES DUE ON JULY 1, 2009

WHEREAS, the Representative Town Meeting has approved a General Fund Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 providing for expenditure appropriations totaling \$118,122,839, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council estimates cash revenue exclusive of FYE 2010 property taxes will total \$43,782,631 therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$2,013,725 is hereby appropriated as fund balance available as of July 1, 2009 to partially meet expenditure appropriations contained in the FYE 2010 General Fund Budget, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tax rate for taxes due July 1, 2009 is hereby established at 17.95 mills per thousand dollar of assessed valuation to raise \$72,326,483 ($\$72,326,483 \div \$4,107,370,597 \div 98.1\% \times 1,000 = 17.95$ mills).

A motion was made by Mayor Watson, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor O'Beirne questioned \$2,013,725 that is appropriated as the available fund balance, and asked where additional money would come from if revenues do not meet the level used to run this calculation.

The Town Manager stated that if State revenues are not at the projected amount, he will come to the Council to determine how to close that revenue shortfall. It could be a variety of actions ranging from holding the line on spending money to tapping into some of the remainder of the fund balance, but any action would be decided on by the Council.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0136 Establishment of Tax Rate for Mumford Cove District Fund (FYE 10)

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TAX RATE FOR MUMFORD COVE DISTRICT FUND
DUE JULY 1, 2009

WHEREAS, the Representative Town Meeting has approved a Mumford Cove District Fund Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 providing for expenditure appropriations totaling \$20,765, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council estimated cash revenue exclusive of FYE 2010 property taxes will total \$25, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the tax rate for taxes due for the Mumford Cove District Fund on July 1, 2009 is hereby established at 0.279 mills per thousand dollar of assessed valuation to raise \$20,740 ($\$20,740 \div \$74,494,212 \div 99.7\% \times 1,000 = 0.279$ mills).

A motion was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Flax, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0137 Establishment of Tax Rate for Groton Sewer District Fund (FYE 10)

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TAX RATE FOR GROTON SEWER DISTRICT FUND
DUE JULY 1, 2009

WHEREAS, the Representative Town Meeting has approved a Groton Sewer District Fund Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 providing for expenditure appropriations totaling \$1,163,189 and

WHEREAS, the Town Council estimated cash revenue exclusive of FYE 2010 property taxes will total \$54,701, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$383,255 is hereby appropriated as fund balance available as of July 1, 2009, to partially meet expenditure appropriations contained in the FYE 2010 Sewer District Fund budget, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tax rate for taxes due for the Groton Sewer District Fund on July 1, 2009 is hereby established at 0.28 mills per thousand dollar of assessed valuation to raise \$725,233 ($\$725,233 \div \$2,618,925,115$ (excluding motor vehicles) $\div 98.9\% \times 1,000 = 0.28$ mills).

A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0139 Submarine Capital of the World Inc. Request for Donation

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRIBUTION TO SUBMARINE CAPITAL OF THE
WORLD INC.

WHEREAS, Submarine Capital of the World Inc. is a non-profit organization that exists to publicize the many values of the U.S. Submarine Force, the U.S. Naval Submarine Base in Groton, and the military industrial base that exists in southeastern Connecticut, and

WHEREAS, the organization plans to use various media, including a video and a website called

Subcap.com, for various purposes including distribution to Congressional offices, veterans groups, chambers of commerce and service clubs, and

WHEREAS, it is worthwhile to the Town of Groton to join and assist efforts to promote and preserve the national value of the submarine base, and

WHEREAS, it is expected that other municipalities that are members of our regional Council of Governments will similarly contribute to this project, and

WHEREAS, a contribution by the Town of Groton is especially suitable in view of the funding that has been authorized by the State of Connecticut to aid in infrastructure improvements at the base, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the expenditure of \$350.00 to Submarine Capital of the World Inc. from funds previously appropriated to the Town Manager.

A motion was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

A motion to approve Resolutions 2009-0142 Appointment of Ilona Oberman to Housing Authority, 2009-0143 Reappointment of Gregory Leonard to Parks and Recreation Commission, 2009-0144 Reappointment of Douglas Brandt to the Zoning Commission, 2009-0145 Reappointment of Susan Marquardt to the Zoning Commission, and 2009-0146 Reappointment of Susan Sutherland to the Zoning Commission was made by Councilor O'Beirne, seconded by Councilor Monteiro and so voted unanimously.

2009-0142 Appointment of Ilona Oberman to Housing Authority

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ILONA V. OBERMAN TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY

RESOLVED, that Ilona V. Oberman, 12 Overlook Avenue, Mystic, is appointed as a member of the Housing Authority for a term ending 7/31/12.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0143 Reappointment of Gregory Leonard to Parks and Recreation Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING GREGORY C. LEONARD TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Gregory C. Leonard, 14 Sequin Drive, is reappointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term ending 12/31/13.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0144 Reappointment of Douglas Brandt to the Zoning Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DOUGLAS BRANDT TO THE ZONING COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Douglas Brandt, 82 High Meadow Lane, Mystic, is reappointed to the Zoning Commission for a term ending 12/31/11.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0145 Reappointment of Susan Marquardt to the Zoning Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING SUSAN MARQUARDT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE ZONING COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Susan Marquardt, 96 South Road, is reappointed as an alternate member of the Zoning Commission for a term ending 9/30/11.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0146 Reappointment of Susan Sutherland to the Zoning Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING SUSAN K. SUTHERLAND AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE ZONING COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Susan K. Sutherland, 32 Neptune Drive, is hereby reappointed as an Alternate to the Zoning Commission, for a term expiring 9/30/13.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0147 Police Union Working Agreement

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH GROTON POLICE UNION, LOCAL #428 COUNCIL #15, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton and the Groton Police Union, Local #3428 Council #15, AFSCME, AFL-CIO reached a tentative package agreement on a successor collective bargaining agreement for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011, and

WHEREAS, the bargaining unit membership voted to approve the agreement, and

WHEREAS, approval is recommended by the Town's negotiators, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Groton Town Council hereby approves the expenditure of funds necessary to implement the agreement between the Town of Groton and the Groton Police Union, Local#3428 Council #15, AFSCME, AFL-CIO.

A motion was made by Mayor Watson, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0148 Position Description for Office Assistant/Mail Courier

RESOLUTION APPROVING A JOB DESCRIPTION FOR AN OFFICE ASSISTANT/MAIL COURIER

WHEREAS, the FYE 2010 budget provides for a position to be shifted from the Finance Department to Parks and Recreation, taking with it the duties associated with the work of the Town's internal courier and mail messenger and adding new office assistant duties, and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Services Department regularly reviews job descriptions when opportunities provide for them to be updated, so as to provide for flexibility of assignment and to recognize the most important current requirements for the job's performance, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the job description of Office Assistant/Mail Courier dated May 2009.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

May 26, 2009 and he will amend those minutes to reflect that.

The motion carried unanimously

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Monteiro would like to discuss a task force on shared services with Stonington at the meeting with the Stonington Board of Selectmen already scheduled for later this month.

Councilor Schmidt asked about an item in the Weekly Status Finance Report regarding the OPEB fund continuing to operate with low cash. She is concerned about whether funds will be refunded by the Board of Education.

The Town Manager remarked that the Board of Education is taking money out of the current budget to put into this account.

Councilor Schmidt requested a report on the Library Street property at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

2009-0154 Grove Avenue Subdivision/Mardie Lane

GROVE AVENUE SUBDIVISION/MARDIE LANE

Councilor Sheets requested a referral regarding Mardie Lane and its deteriorating conditions.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 9:13 p.m. was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor O'Beirne and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Barbara Tarbox, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*

Lori Watrous, Office Assistant